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The Inkwell

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THE INKWELL

Week of November 13, 2008

Volume 77, Issue 27

Severe cuts to library budget reflect university system's woes

Dispute over \$300,000 could be first of many as departments struggle to adjust

By Maggie Martin
Staff Writer

The Lane Library staff is worried about substantial cuts to its budget after a recent Board of Regents mandate directed all state universities to cut their state budgets by five percent. This is a starting figure in a comprehensive plan to balance the state's budget after lower tax revenues have left a defi-

cit topping one billion dollars.

"In fiscal year '08 we had \$779,000 in the library budget excluding personnel services, in fiscal year '09 we have \$473,074. That's \$306,750 less in our budget this year. If that's not a cut I don't know what is," said Doug Fraizer, university librarian.

David Carson, vice president of business and finance,

Dr. Ellen Whitford, vice president and dean of faculty, and Andy Clark, director of institutional research, all say that the library budget has not been cut.

Whitford insists that there was more money in the account than the library was intended to spend.

"The \$300,000 in question never belonged to the library," Whitford said.

"University funds were be-

ing held in the account. Doug Frazier knew the money was there and knew it wasn't for library use, I've talked to him about it."

Fraizer became the interim university librarian when his predecessor unexpectedly passed away in 2005. Although past budget reports show both increases and decreases in the total budget for the library from 2001 to 2008, Frazier said, "There

has been no jump in the budget anywhere near \$300,000 since I took over responsibility in 2006."

In 2001, the budget was \$649,000, bottoming out at a low of \$554,824 in 2005 before increasing steadily to its 2008 total.

"The money that Dr. Whitford is referring to was money in a completely sepa-

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Marina V's International Week performance

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SGA unveils social networking site to 'hook' students

Pirate Portal will showcase Armstrong events, photos

By Kristen Alonso
Staff Manager
kainkwell@gmail.com

At the Student Government Association (SGA) meeting on Nov. 10, President Somi Benson-Jaja introduced the new Pirate Portal, a social networking website to connect the students of Armstrong.

Benson-Jaja said that he and Senator Tamer Amer were trying to connect student groups and give SGA events more visibility, and Jen Taylor from Computer Information Services pointed them toward creating their own social networking site. Students can create their own accounts and each group can have its own page on the portal to post videos, photos and events.

The ultimate goal is to move completely away from the Facebook program by posting all elections dialogue and photos on the Portal. Benson-Jaja said that when the SGA takes photos of students at events, senators will hand out cards to show them they've been "hooked" and can see their pictures online.

The SGA plans to promote the Web site at the Organizational Presidents' Council meeting and the "Let's Talk" forum, both on Nov. 13. Benson-Jaja said a committee will reevaluate the pilot program in three months and if 300 students have not signed up, it may be deemed unsuccessful, and the SGA will look for other ideas to promote SGA events.

Pirate Portal's address is pirateportal.ning.com.

Appointments

Senators carried a motion for Senator Larissa Robinson to replace Senator Chris Nowicki on the Finance Committee after Nowicki graduates this December.

In the same motion, the senate filled a vacancy on the Finance Committee by appointing Chad Roberts as student-at-large. Nowicki said Roberts is active in the Honors Society and expressed interest in the committee.

Student surveys

Nowicki discussed a survey he hopes to have sent out to all Armstrong students via e-mail this Friday, Nov. 14. The survey is part of his work in the Student Services Committee and will cover topics such as academic achievement, campus safety, dining services and financial aid, among others.

Once the committee receives the completed surveys within two to three weeks, it will take the results to the relevant departments and discuss improvements for students.

"We got a lot accomplished through those [surveys] last year," Nowicki said.

Pirate Card

Al Harris, director of student activities, said that the new Pirate Cards are activated for the dining room, bookstore and most vending machines. Access to the Recreation Center will only be granted to Pirate Card holders and the university is installing access "swipes" to the Compass Point clubhouse so only those residents and relevant faculty will be allowed in the facility after certain hours.

Harris pointed out that there are three different programs with the Pirate Card: the meal plan, dining dollars, and Pirate cash. Dining dollars can be used at Quizno's, the coffee shop or the food court.

The Pirate Card will also be used for copies and prints at the library, and beginning in January, the free prints students receive through their technology fee will be deducted from the card. Students can reload money onto their cards at the Bursar's Office, the library or, starting in December, online.

Harris said that in the summer, the university should be receiving new washers, and residents may be able to go online with their Pirate Cards to see if any washers or dryers are available before they trek to the clubhouse.

Treasurer Anna Mach said the current balance is \$743.00.

How history was made

Armstrong professors weigh in on Obama's victory



Graphic by Chris Gibson

President-elect Obama received over 53 percent of the popular vote and 364 votes in the Electoral College.

By Brad Curran
Staff Writer

At approximately 11 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 4, 2008 Eastern Standard Time, something that would have been thought of as impossible only a generation ago came to pass: Illinois Sen. Barack Obama was projected the winner of the presidential election.

For the very first time in American history, an African-American had been elected to be the leader of the free world.

Obama delivered his acceptance speech an hour later before a crowd of over 250,000 in Chicago's Grant Park.

"It's been a long time coming, but tonight, because of what we did on

this day, in this election, at this defining moment, change has come to America. But above all, I will never forget who this victory truly belongs to—it belongs to you."

His Republican opponent, Sen. John McCain, offered his congratulations to Obama during his concession speech.

"In a contest as long and difficult as this campaign has been, his success alone commands my respect for his ability and perseverance. But that he managed to do so by inspiring the hopes of so many millions of Americans who had once wrongly believed that they had little at stake or little influence in the election of an American president is something I deeply admire and commend him for achieving."

The turnout alone—over

120 million voters—would be enough to make this election historic, but even more impressive is the 65.3 million votes Obama received in the popular vote, nearly 8 million more than McCain, giving Obama the highest number of votes ever received by any American presidential candidate in the general election.

So how did Sen. Obama pull off the most historic presidential victory in American history?

Dr. Paul Mullen of the political science department said that a number of factors played into Obama's victory, but a lot of it had to do with the historic unpopularity of current president, George W. Bush.

"The main thing is that when a candidate is in the same party as a President

with a less than 30 percent approval rating, this was going to be a hard year for any Republican candidate," Mullen said.

Professor Kathleen Burke of the political science department also felt that Obama's victory was a forgone conclusion, albeit not the large victory that Obama ultimately had.

"I did expect him to win, but I didn't expect it to be quite the landslide that it was, and it probably wouldn't have been if the economy hadn't become such a big issue. The trend is that when Americans are unhappy with the status quo, we tend to go with the other side and abandon the side of status quo, and the Republican party was seen as that side this time."

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NEWS

Calendar of Events

Nov. 14: Faculty Lecture Series “Biocatalysis: Making Drugs with Little Bugs” 12:10 p.m - 1 p.m. UH 156
Nov. 15: Inkwell Writer’s Workshop 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Solms 110
Nov. 17: Dean’s Search - College of Liberal Arts - Candidate presentations 12 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. UH 156
Nov. 18: Savannah Working Against Human Trafficking 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. UH 157

Check online for more News
Student’s recap of Vietnam trip and the crime blotter
theinkwellonline.com

Car loans can sink students

Many may not need that new convertible

By Jamison Dowd
Staff Writer

Most students need – or think they need – a car, but taking out car loans may not be the best way of obtaining one.
“Car loans may not be such a great idea for conventional students,” economics professor Dr. Richard McGrath said.
The conventional college student is fresh out of high school and just entering college for the first time.
“The biggest issue with car loans is students are generally not in great financial shape to pay money back over a number of years,” McGrath said.
This may not be true of all students. However, McGrath offers advice for students who may be able to afford that loan.
“You maybe able to afford the car loan, but don’t for-

get, auto loans require that you pay more for insurance because you are required to have more insurance on a car that was purchased with a car loan.”
McGrath said students who are in good financial standing may quickly find themselves in major debt from the increased insurance on top of the loan.
“Students who need to work more to increase finances, usually sacrifice study and preparation time.”
Chris Murray graduated from Armstrong this past summer and purchased his automobile a few months ago.
“I love my car, and I don’t regret buying it, but it does take up a majority of my finances,” he said.
Students may need cars for many reasons, but if the car is solely for getting to work, McGrath has more advice.

“If you only need a job to pay for a car, and you only need a car to get to the job, drop the job and the car and walk to school or take the bus.”
McGrath said students must realize when they are falling into financial trouble. The longer a student fails to realize their debt problems, the more adverse the affect will be on their future.
“My advice to students is drive something cheap and dependable, take the bus, take a bike. There’s no reason to saddle yourself with a big car loan while you’re in college,” he said.
Murray’s experience supported McGrath’s thoughts.
“I would hate to have these payments if I was still in school and I’m glad I waited until I finished,” Murray said.

Skirt! party shows what a feminist looks like

The local magazine raises money for gender and women studies programs

By Joseph Prouse
Staff Writer

For years there has been a stereotypical view of feminists: angry women in army boots with a predilection for man-hating—and skirt! magazine is trying to change that.
Skirt! hosted its first ever “This is what a feminist looks like” event at the Moon River Brewing Company on Bay Street on Nov. 7. The fundraiser attracted a basement full of partying feminists—men and women alike. Both genders harmoniously enjoyed the free food, drinks and music by DJ Epiphany.
Two students at Armstrong who majored in gender and women’s studies will receive \$250 scholarships from the event, Dr. Teresa Winterhalter, director of gender and women’s studies at Armstrong, said.
Winterhalter said the party was an attempt to show that many people identify with the feminist perspective—equal pay for

equal work—even if they don’t claim to be “feminists.”
Winterhalter said Jessica Lebos, skirt! editor in Savannah and Hilton Head Island, contacted her about adding an academic element to skirt! after Lebos learned that Armstrong had a gender and women’s studies degree program, which is in its first year.
Together they brainstormed and created the idea for the fund-raising party, which Winterhalter said is a launching pad for future events.
Lebos said via e-mail that the raffle raised an estimated \$150 for the scholarship fund. Winners received a skirt! tote bag, a FACES Day Spa of Hilton Head spa package and VIP discount cards and gift cards for local restaurants courtesy of SavannahMenu.com.
Publisher Nikki Harden said she started skirt! in Charleston, S.C. in 1994 because she felt there were not enough womens’ publications at the time. She began

operations with only about \$500 in an area that was mostly conservative; she says that has since changed.
Lebos said the scope of the magazine has also changed from being marketed in seven cities to 19 since she started with skirt! a year and a half ago.
Lebos was a feminist long before she began work with the magazine.
“I marched as a feminist with my mother for the Equal Rights Amendment in the 70s,” she said, referring to the amendment that was designed to ensure equal rights for both men and women but eventually failed to be ratified by the 38 states required for addition to the Constitution.
“The skirt! Scholarship Fund partners with local colleges and universities to recognize academic and athletic excellence,” Lebos said. “We awarded \$2,500 this year and hope to award more in 2009.”

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Burke added that the worldwide celebration that took place immediately following Obama’s win was somewhat surprising.
“I know there is a very strong widespread discontent with the current administration, so the rest of the world was watching. I didn’t expect the partying that took place, but it made sense.”
With the election now over, one question many people are also asking is: Did Tina Fey help cost McCain the election with her dead-on (and phenomenally popular) portrayal of Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin?
“Will Ferrell did a dead-on George Bush, and Bush got re-elected, but he had the advantage that people knew who he was, and she didn’t,” Mullen said.

Burke felt it may have actually helped Palin, saying “I don’t think it’s part of why they lost, but political satire touches people who don’t necessarily pay attention to politics, so it gave her a lot of exposure.”
Saturday Night Live saw a 50 percent increase in viewership following Fey’s first appearance as Palin, and the video of her first appearance became NBC’s single most popular video of all time, gaining 5.7 million views by the following Monday. In addition, the episode of SNL in which the real Sarah Palin made an appearance gave SNL its highest ratings in 14 years.
Mullen felt that McCain’s selection of Palin widened the margin by which Obama won, but it was not as detrimental to his candidacy as has been perceived in the af-

termath of the election,
“I don’t think that picking her changed the outcome, but it might have changed the margin. Mainly, it undercut McCain’s emphasis on the need for experience to be president. Polls showed at the end that did hurt him a bit, but a better VP probably wouldn’t have put him over the top.”
Burke felt that Palin’s presence was more of a positive factor.
“Palin was like a Hail-Mary; it can either win a game or lose a game.”
Whatever cost McCain the presidency will be debated for years to come, and it’s perhaps a moot point, considering that rumors are already circulating that Palin is considering a presidential bid in the 2012 election.

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rate account that had been in our use for the library renovation. Once the renovation was complete I knew that there were plans to use the remaining funds for the new stop light,” Frazier said.

Although Whitford said she would be willing to look at a compromise on the library funds, there is no money to be taken from elsewhere. The university is preparing for another round of cuts that are expected to come now that election sea-

son has passed.
“Personnel costs are over 80 percent of our budget. Add in utilities and necessary supplies and we really don’t have a lot to work with,” Whitford said.
The administration will manage the first string of

cuts by pulling money from a small reserve fund, eliminating non-essential vacant spots and implementing a five percent reduction in department spending said Carson.
Armstrong hopes it can to ensure faculty and staff’s

jobs remain safe, while ensuring that students are not adversely affected.
“Raising tuition or laying off workers would be the last call we would want to make,” Carson said.
Every one percent of state funds given back by the uni-

versity translates to about \$35,000. The administration is currently asking all departments across campus to plan on spending 75 percent of their budgets and leaving the other 25 percent intact in preparation for future cuts.

Campus Life

Voices on Campus

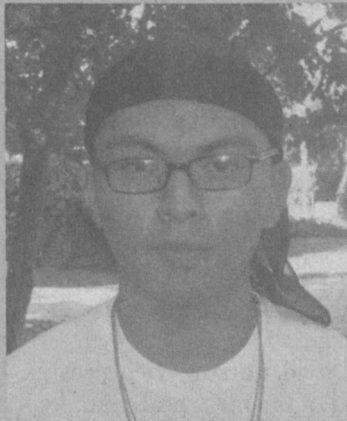
Students reflect on the election

By Alexandra North
Staff Writer

Over 130 million Americans voted on Nov. 4, and Barack Obama is the new president-elect of the United States.
Over 250,000 people gathered in Chicago to celebrate Obama’s victory.
Students this week were asked the question “What did you think about how the election ended?”



“I wasn’t really surprised because I kind of already predicted it in my mind. I didn’t vote for Obama, but I’m not upset that he is going to be our new president.”
-Jenny Lambeth, junior, English and gender and women’s studies



“Wasn’t who I voted for. I’m not too fond of Obama, but as my general principle as an American I must respect my president and hope the best for America. I’m still an American and I’m proud to be one, and I hope that he makes the right choice for America.”
-Calin Caracol, freshman, pre-engineering



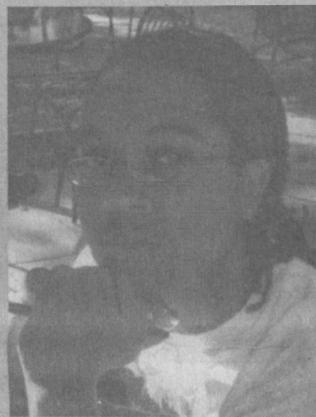
“I’m very happy with the way the election turned out because I feel like the candidate that won will offer more stability for my future. The values that Obama brought to the table were superior to McCain’s.”
-Tiesha Cobin, junior, early childhood education



“I think it was a big turnaround from what people were thinking a few months ago. I’m happy with Obama being president-elect more so to keep McCain/Palin out of office.”
-Mandi Graw, freshman, undeclared



“I cried myself to sleep after the election. I think conservatism is dying and I think that it’s a shame. I feel that as conservatism flies out the window, so does our freedom. Freedom dies with a thunderous applause.”
-Rachel Rosenthal, graduate student in public health



“I think it played out how it was supposed to. I approve. I think it was the right choice in the end, and if it wasn’t meant to happen it wouldn’t have.”
-Jibreel Ahmad, sophomore, theater

Six by Six

Rock the vote

Students were asked this week “Did you vote? Why or why not?” and were asked to answer in just six words.

“No. I didn’t get to register.”
-Brynn Anderson, freshman, dental hygiene

“Yes. To demonstrate my constitutional liberty.”
-Bruce Carr, junior, theatre

“No. I am not a citizen.”
-Ivonne Carrillo, senior, political science

“Yes, so I can complain... yeah!”
-Pat Bunker, senior, English with teacher’s certificate

“No. Didn’t have time, heavy schedule.”
-Matt McGhee, sophomore, nursing

“Yes. It’s right as an American.”
-Ken Limbaugh, graduate student, sports medicine

We encourage readers to e-mail us with their six-word suggestions for this week’s topic:

How do you feel about student government?

E-mail submissions to campuslife.inkwell@gmail.com. Be sure to include your name, year in school and major. Please limit yourself to one submission per topic.

Correction for last issue:

In “Students react to Obama victory” Brian Williams said in his quote, “This is the single greatest moment in our generation.”

EDITORIALS & OPINIONS

The Inkwell welcomes and invites letters to the editor. All submissions must be less than 350 words, and they must be signed. E-mail your submission to inkwell@armstrong.edu. Opinions expressed in op/ed columns or in editorial cartoons do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the newspaper. The Inkwell reserves the right to edit for grammar and spelling.

NOT IN WHITE HOUSE, BUT WOMEN STILL WON

By Laura Scott
(MCT)

OK, I admit it. My kids were right. I was wrong.

Barack Obama clearly was the best choice for Democrats to nominate for president. Of course, you will figure that hindsight allows me to say that, but it really was evident even before the election last Tuesday.

Obama gives the best hope, as president, of bringing us together in a time when we

desperately need leadership that is inclusive of all Americans. The great emotion that swelled the nation, from Grant Park in Chicago to people watching election results on their TVs at home, would not have happened with any other candidate, in the primaries or in the general election.

With Hillary Clinton, who was Obama's fierce opponent in the Democratic race, I fear the partisan sniping in this country wouldn't even have

taken a rest 24 hours after the election.

Some know I was a Clinton supporter earlier. I suppose, it was the woman thing. The realization that a woman finally had real political power and also was quite capable of running the country made her an appealing candidate. She appealed to many other women as well.

When Clinton failed in the Democratic caucuses to get enough delegates to beat Obama, many of her other supporters were very upset. They threatened last summer to vote for John McCain in November.

Yet, as Nov. 4 neared, we didn't hear from them anymore. And, judging from election exit polls, women voters went strongly for Obama. The new president-elect drew more than half of women voters, and one report said it was as high as 56 percent. Men split between Obama and McCain more evenly.

Women voters in the last couple of decades have become a force. So last week's election was a reaffirmation, once again, that issues of education, children and health care must be on a candidate's priority list.

Women voters do not look at these or other issues necessarily the same way, but candidates must learn to assess the appeal to women voters of stands they take in any given election.

Even though the lead-

ing woman candidate fell short of the White House in the primary, in a number of other ways women advanced this year as major players on the national stage.

Start with Sarah Palin. You may believe she was a drag on the GOP's chances because voters were turned off by her inexperience and folksiness, but clearly she struck a chord with many who admired her background as governor and small-town mayor, her ability to balance family and politics, and her speech-giving skills.

She was not a substitute who could appeal to many Hillary Clinton voters, as early reports about her would have us believe, but Palin obviously energized a GOP political base that was becoming ho-hum about McCain's candidacy. She got the crowds out, you betcha.

Palin likely has a political career ahead of her, which could start with a U.S. Senate race after Alaska figures out what to do with dishonored GOP Sen. Ted Stevens.

This election, too, seemed to signal a women's liberation of a new sort.

Several leading Democratic women officeholders signed on early with Obama, rather than Clinton. This seems to me an abrupt departure from the past, as Democratic women have tended to stick together in campaigns.

The "defectors" include Kansas Gov. Kathleen Sebelius and Missouri Sen. Claire

McCaskill. As a result of their decision to publicly and passionately back Obama, they are going to have much sway in the new administration. Sebelius often is mentioned for a position in the new president's Cabinet. Can't get much more powerful than that.

Finally, this election guarantees that women will have a strong advocate in the White House, and not just the president. Michelle Obama is not likely to be as Hillary Clinton

was to Bill and try to broker a health-care compromise. But she shows promise in underscoring the concerns of women trying to balance all they have to do in life, and of being a role model in that regard.

I predict that Michelle Obama will be every bit as popular among voters as Laura Bush. That adds to the opportunity for success by a historic presidency that wants to make us whole again.



(MCT)

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The Statesboro Herald

Republicans must regain principles

McClatchy-Tribune

Elections have consequences. Republicans can choose theirs.

They can make excuses. They can blame outsiders: the "liberal media," duped youths or identity politics. They can continue the fratricide that boiled up as the diminishing McCain campaign ran out of straws to grasp.

Or, they can stand up and be the adults they always insist they are and take a hard look at themselves. What they see should not please them, but it could encourage them.

If polls are to be believed, Republicans still live in a

center-right nation, with far more Americans self-identifying as moderate or conservative than liberal. If Tuesday's election results are to be believed, fewer Americans in fewer states believe Republican candidates offer real answers to real problems.

A two-party nation with dozens of strains of political philosophy naturally necessitates coalition parties that make room for dissenting views while organizing around a set of core beliefs.

In happier times, Republicans understood that. They roared back from far bleaker days to regain the White House and Congress.

Each time they then lost

their way. They allowed the exercise of power to exceed their reliance on the principles that got them there. When they asked voters for one more chance, they were given President-elect Barack Obama and stronger Democratic majorities in Congress.

If they use their heads, this could be the best thing to happen to them.

They have an opportunity to regroup as the loyal opposition to a Democratic Party in charge of every lever of elected federal government. Now's the time to reorganize around the key principles of fiscal discipline, personal responsibility, "conservation" in environmentalism,

frugality over flamboyance and a strong but pragmatic national defense.

Every policy they propose, every stand they take, should grow naturally out of these principles. They even have an example in the United Kingdom, where David Cameron and the Tories, after years in the wilderness, are one election from regaining power.

There is a difference between conservative and Republican, as Republicans have made abundantly clear. The latter is only the application of the former, and the former is where this political party can rediscover itself.

Women on the move

By Winnie Walsh
Columnist

Susan B. Anthony was disappointed after the Civil War because the 14th Amendment gave the slaves citizenship and the males the right to vote. Evidently, women as citizens were not part of the voting scene. This did not stop her determination to forge on for women's suffrage, and because of her, women today can not only vote, but they can hold public office and even aspire to

the highest positions in the land.

Sen. Hillary Clinton and Gov. Sarah Palin made history.

Clinton is the first woman to run in a Democratic national primary race for candidacy as President of the United States, and Palin was chosen by Republican presidential candidate Sen. John McCain, as his potential vice-president. Both of these women lost to an African-American male and a white male vice-presidential can-

didate.

Time and place mean a great deal in the political scene. Both of these women represent the beginning of women taking their rightful place in our government. Clinton chose to challenge a candidate in a presidential primary race, and Palin accepted a challenge from a presidential candidate to be his vice president. Their loss is a gain for women everywhere because it proves women are recognized as serious contenders for politi-

cal office.

If Susan B. Anthony were alive today, she would be pleased to defer to President-elect Barack Obama. American history gave him a head start in the 14th Amendment, but in 1919 an amendment to the constitution was named after her.

Susan B. Anthony's name parallels Barack Obama. Her name created a voice for women and his creates change for our country.

SPORTS

Calendar of Events

Nov. 15: Women's Basketball vs. Fairmont St. at Concord, W. Va., 2008 Concord Lady Lion Classic 2008 Concord Lady Lion Classic 1 p.m.
Nov. 16: Women's Basketball at Concord 2008 Concord Lady Lion Classic 2008 Concord Lady Lion Classic 3 p.m.
Nov. 17: Men's Basketball vs. Queens (N.C.) 7 p.m.
Nov. 20: Men's Basketball at Pfeiffer 5:30 p.m.

Armstrong claims sole possession of regular season championship

Armstrong defeats USC Aiken to top the PBC

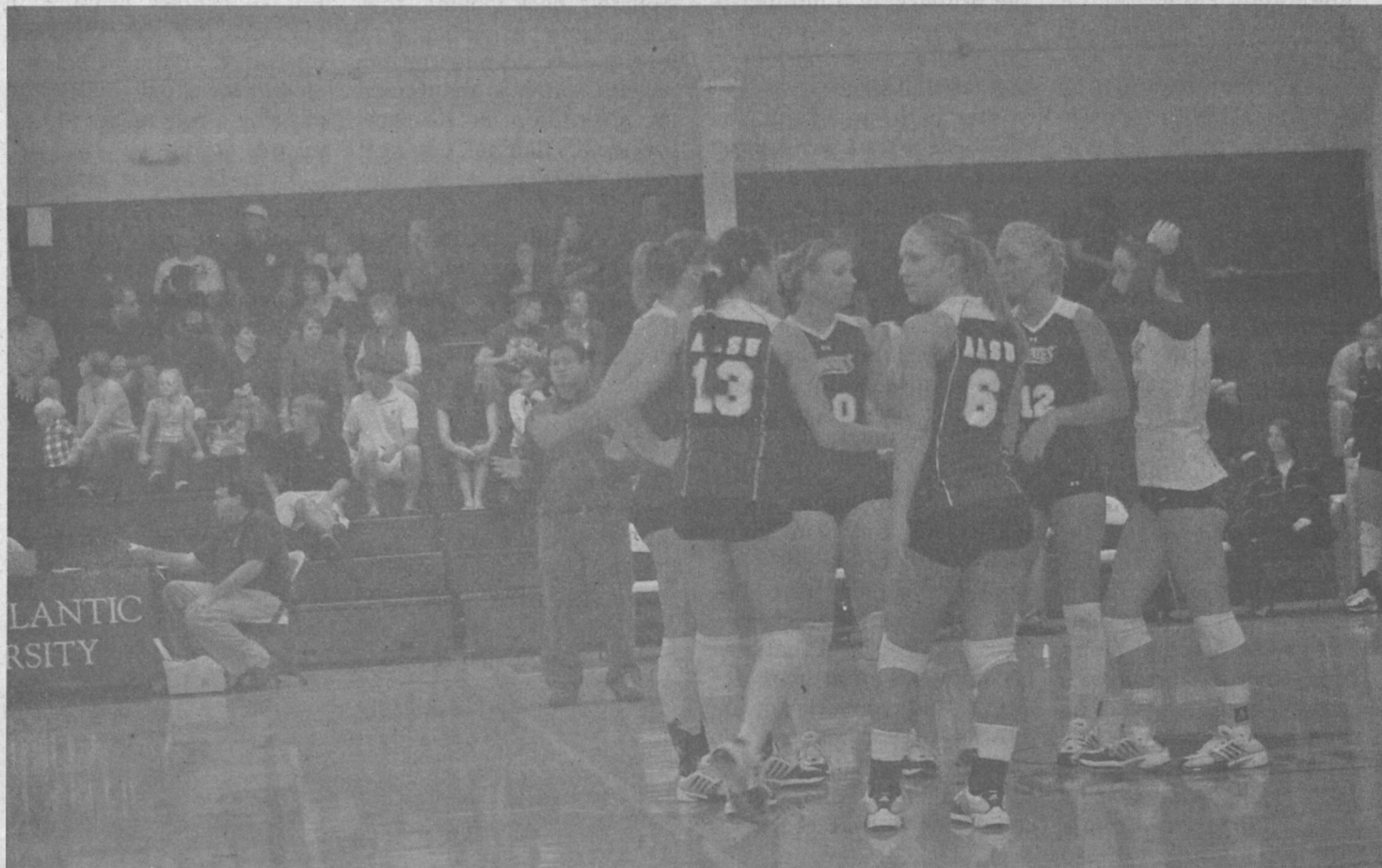


Photo by Tricia Carlson

The volleyball squad's teamwork throughout the fall earned Armstrong its third regular season title.

By Andrew Manning
Staff Writer

Armstrong's Volleyball team clinched the Peach Belt Conference regular season title outright as well as earning a no. 1 seed in the upcoming conference tournament with a 3-1 victory over USC Aiken on Saturday, Nov. 8. The game scores for the match were 25-20, 25-27, 25-16, 25-17. Seniors were recognized before the match and Arm-

strong's lone senior, Rindy Vidovich, showed her seniority and dominated the court with a team high 17 kills along with her 12 digs and five blocks. With these numbers, Vidovich moved into the number six position on Armstrong's all-time kill chart with 941 career kills. USC Aiken gave Armstrong one of their two losses in conference play earlier in the season, but Armstrong was ready for both revenge and

to claim the conference title. The first set came down to the wire, with Vidovich getting the last three points on kills to set the tempo for the entire match. USC Aiken briefly shifted the momentum with their narrow win in the second set and that change carried through the start of the third. Armstrong managed to rally back and take a commanding lead that they did not relinquish until the match was

over and the title was theirs. The win puts Armstrong in the top spot in the conference tournament and gives the team a boost of confidence to succeed in the tournament. Armstrong finished the regular season with a record of 23-6, 8-2 in PBC play. Armstrong begins their tournament play on Nov. 15 in Pembroke, N.C., in the semi-finals against an opponent determined by the opening round results.

Armstrong defeats Lander in four sets
Win clinches at least a share of regular season crown

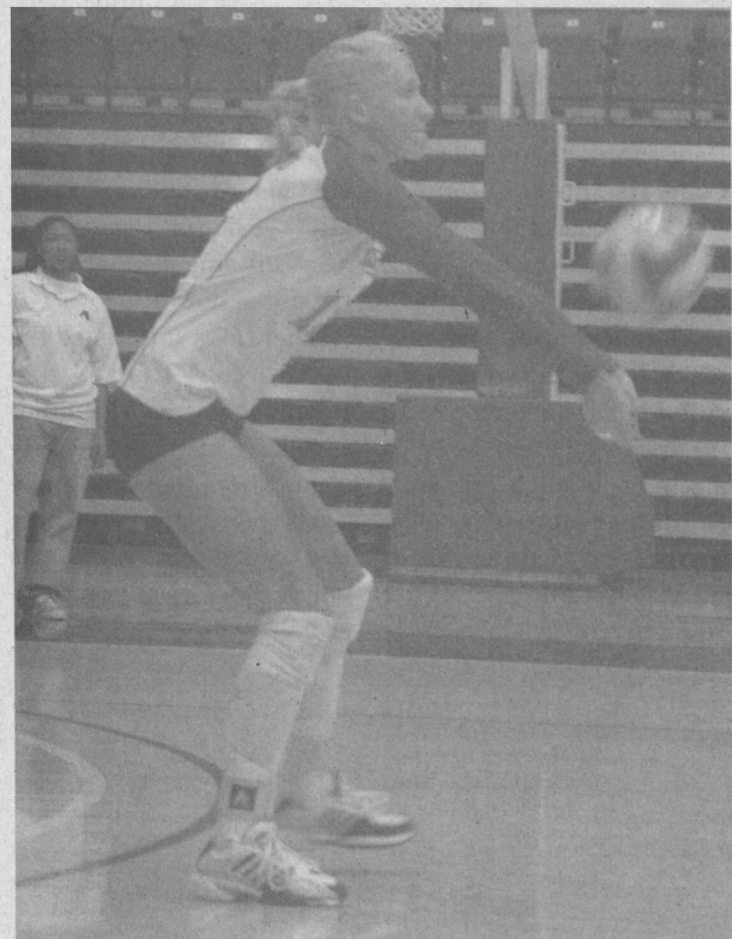


Photo courtesy of Sports Communications

Rindy Vidovich finished the match with 17 kills, 11 of which happened in the last two games.

By Luke Armstrong
Staff Writer

Armstrong defeated the Lander Bearcats 3-1 on Friday, Nov. 7. The teams entered tied for first in the conference at 6-2 in the Peach Belt Conference with overall records of 21-6 and 20-9 respectively. With the win over Land-

er, a team Armstrong beat 3-1 earlier in the season, the Pirates locked up at least a share of the PBC regular season title. It is their third PBC title in four years. Right out of the gate it seemed as though Armstrong was going to dominate Land-

er as they went on a 6-1 run to start the game. Unfortunately for the Pirates, starting setter and team assist-leader Hannah Segebart went down early in the first set with what appeared to be an ankle injury. Segebart was forced to sit and play cheerleader while she iced her ankle on the bench for the rest of the match. Junior Marina Marinova played well in Segebart's stead and collected 43 assists, 5 blocks and 8 digs in the match. Armstrong took the first set with ease, 25-19, but the second set was a different tale altogether. Lander gained their first lead of the match at the 3-4 mark in the second. Despite a valiant attempt to make a comeback, Armstrong lost the second set 20-25. Head coach Will Condon described set two as a "reality check" for his team. They needed to make adjustments between the second and third set in order to prevail in this match. Condon also overshadowed the game in the second set as he and the head referee had a war of words over how the match was being officiated. Condon eventually was warned and carded because of his actions during this set. According to the coach, the referee was calling some

of the hand rules tighter than most other officials would have. In the third set, the Bearcats took the early lead 1-4. The Pirates tied it up at 4 and managed to take their first lead since early in the second set at 6-5. They then went on an 11-2 run despite solid defense and several good volleys by Lander. It seemed as though every great dig that Lander made was all for nothing, and Armstrong went on to win the third set impressively, 25-15. After their large margin victory in the third, Armstrong went on a 10-2 run at the outset of the fourth set. Lander made several attempts to cut into the lead, but the Pirates kept making plays like the one by freshmen Casey Howett, who made the most impressive of her 19 digs by scrapping the ball off the floor. Armstrong closed out their 3-1 victory by another wide margin, 25-15. After the match Condon said that he was proud of the tremendous effort that his team gave. "Everyone played really well even those that only came in for a little time," he said.

Weekly Sports Trivia Quiz

McClatchy-Tribune News Service (MCT)

QUESTIONS:

- 1.) Who holds the record for most sacks in a season for the Houston Oilers/Tennessee Titans' franchise?
- 2.) Where did Tennessee Titans coach Jeff Fisher attend college?
- 3.) When did the Houston Oilers collapse after building a 35-3 third-quarter lead against the Buffalo Bills in the NFL playoffs?
- 4.) When was the Oilers' last season in Houston?
- 5.) Who owns the Tennessee Titans' franchise?

- 1.) Former Houston Oilers defensive end Elvin Bethea holds the franchise record for most sacks in a season with 17.0 in 1973, though it was an unofficial category that season. (Sacks weren't recognized as an official NFL category until the 1982 season.)
- 2.) Tennessee Titans coach Jeff Fisher attended USC from 1977 to 1980. (Fisher, a Pac-10 All-Academic selection in 1980, also was a member of the USC team that won the national championship in 1978, and served as the Titans' backup placekicker.)
- 3.) On Jan. 3, 1993, the Houston Oilers collapsed after leading 35-3 in the third quarter against the Buffalo Bills, who rallied to outscore the Oilers 38-3 in winning, 41-38, in overtime.
- 4.) The Oilers' last season in Houston was 1996 (the team moved to Tennessee the next season).
- 5.) Bud Adams, a charter member as an owner in the old American Football League (Houston Oilers), owns the Tennessee Titans.

ANSWERS:

DID YOU KNOW?

Former Tennessee Titans running back Eddie George has been pursuing an MBA degree at Northwestern University, in addition to campaigning for now president-elect Barack Obama. George also has a bachelor's degree in landscape architecture from Ohio State, where he won the Heisman Trophy in 1995. Former Tennessee Titans quarterback Steve McNair became the first black quarterback to win the NFL's season MVP award, in 2003, the year he shared the honor with Indianapolis Colts quarterback Peyton Manning. The Tennessee Titans lost to the St. Louis Rams, 23-16, in Super Bowl XXXIV.

Compiled by Gregory Clay

Peach Belt Conference basketball preseason coaches' poll

Men's	Women's
1. USC Aiken	1. USC Aiken
2. Augusta State	2. Clayton State
3. Clayton State	3. Francis Marion
4. North Georgia	4. Columbus State
5. Armstrong Atlantic State	5. Lander
6. GCSU	6. North Georgia
t7. Georgia Southwestern	7. Augusta State
t7. Columbus State	8. Armstrong Atlantic State
9. Francis Marion	9. GCSU
10. Lander	10. UNC Pembroke
11. UNC Pembroke	11. Georgia Southwestern

Courtesy of the Peach Belt Conference

Women’s golf fall season recap

By Kelly Ondriezek
Staff Writer

The Armstrong women’s golf team completed the fall season with a team record stroke average of 337.1. “I think we did a really good job. We worked good together and we’ve improved a lot since the program started,” sophomore Kristen Jelinek said.



Photo courtesy of Sports Communications

Sophomore Kristen Jelinek had a stroke average 85.14 for the fall season.

The Lady Pirates improved their score at the Myrtle Beach Intercollegiate on Oct. 10, placing 8th this season and moving up from 13th place last season. Freshman Victoria Bennett scored the best round during this tournament with an 85, finishing in a tie for 23rd place. Sophomore Carrie George

finished in a tie for 21st with a two day total of 169.

“Obviously you want to improve from the last season. I just wanted to be a team leader and make it comfortable for the new girls coming in,” Jelinek said.

Armstrong scored a 343 at the Flagler College Slam on Oct. 28, finishing in 14th place and staying consistent with their score last season. Bennett carded an 83 on the second day of the tournament, giving her a total of 168 and tying her for 48th place, the best finish for the Lady Pirates. Freshman Kim Knox followed close behind Bennett with a two-day total of 169 for a for 51st.

The Lady Pirates scored their best of the fall season on Sept. 16 at the Lady Falcon Invitational, placing 5th after only one round of golf. Rainy conditions prevented the second round.

The women’s golf team will return to action for their spring season in February.

They have a chance to make the playoffs this year, so building on their strong fall season is critical.

“Well, this is the first year our team has had a chance of talking about going to regionals. I want to help my team to get there and build greater team unity in the spring season and of course be a better golfer,” Jelinek said.

CSU picks up 1-0 overtime win over AASU in PBC semifinals

Courtesy of Sports
Communications

EVANS, Ga. - Kate Walton scored the game-winning seconds from the end of the first overtime period, giving top-seeded and fifth-ranked Columbus State a 1-0 win over fifth-seeded Armstrong Atlantic State in the semifinals of the 2008 PBC Women’s Soccer Championships on Friday Nov. 7 in Evans, Ga.

CSU (18-3-1) advanced to take on second-seeded UNC Pembroke in Sunday Nov. 9th championship match.

The Cougars held a 6-2 shot advantage in a scoreless first half, but the Pirates collected five shots, compared to four for the Cougars, after intermission. After nearly 10 minutes of scoreless play in the first overtime period, it looked headed to a second but a corner kick seconds before the horn sounded resulted in the match-winning goal.

Lindsey Morgan’s corner kick was headed by Gina Goforth to Kate Walton, who beat Armstrong keeper Tracey Mitchell for the match winner in the 100th minute.

It was the third straight

year in which CSU has eliminated the Pirates from the PBC Tournament, with all three matches going to overtime. A season ago it was a 2-1 win by the Cougars in the PBC Championship match, while in 2006 it was a win in penalty kicks for CSU in the Championship.

The Cougars finished the match with a 11-7 shot advantage. Mitchell made four saves in net for the Pirates, while CSU keeper Monica Sanchez made two. CSU held a strong edge in corner kicks, 9-1, and Armstrong was whistled for 10 fouls compared to seven for the Cougars.

Three in a row for flag football champions

By George Annan
Staff Writer

On Monday, Nov. 3, The Infamous Blue Ballers defeated Coalition for a second time this season, this time for the Ballers’ third consecutive flag football championship.

Coalition started slowly due to injuries. Star receiver, rusher and flag puller extraordinaire Matthew McGee played through a re-aggravated knee injury he suffered in the teams’ last meeting. Eric Rogers also suffered a tooth injury in the previous day’s practice.

After four quick downs, Coalition was forced to punt on the opening drive. The Ballers capitalized with a touchdown thrown by veteran quarterback Mike Carter to Robert Flanders.

The Ballers continued to pour on the defense later in the first half when they forced Coalition quarterback Mike Medelin into an interception. On the ensuing Ballers’ drive, Carter ran down the sideline and in for a touchdown.

At the half, team Coalition made some defensive adjustments. Their new objective

was to force the pass and contain the speed and agility of Carter.

This backfired for Coalition. The Ballers received to start the half, and Carter quickly threw a touchdown pass to John Szeker.

Carter later ran in the last touchdown of the evening. The final score was 26-6. The Infamous Blue Ballers and Coalition ranked as Armstrong’s top two flag-football teams. Both will make a trip to Athens for the state championship tournament on Nov. 22.

Novakova, Muller-Wehlau Wrap up ASU Invitational Action

Courtesy of Sports
Communications

TEMPE, Ariz. - The Armstrong Atlantic State women’s tennis duo of Sona Novakova and Alida Muller-Wehlau wrapped up action at the Arizona State University’s Thunderbird Invitational on Sunday Nov. 9 by winning their second doubles match of the weekend.

The duo knocked off Rika Tatsuna and Michelle Sulahian of Michigan, 8-5, on Sunday morning to finish the weekend with a 2-1 record in doubles.

Novakova did not fare as well in the singles bracket final, losing to No. 3 seed Jana Juricova of Cal, 6-2, 6-1. The freshman finished the weekend 4-1 in singles, with wins over two other seeded players.

Muller-Wehlau dropped a consolation match to Christala Andrews of Southern California, 6-3, 6-3, on Sunday as well.

Freshman Sona Novakova picked up two singles wins in the first day of the invitational, advancing to the quarterfinals on Friday Nov 7.

Novakova picked up a 6-2, 6-1 win over Stephany Chang

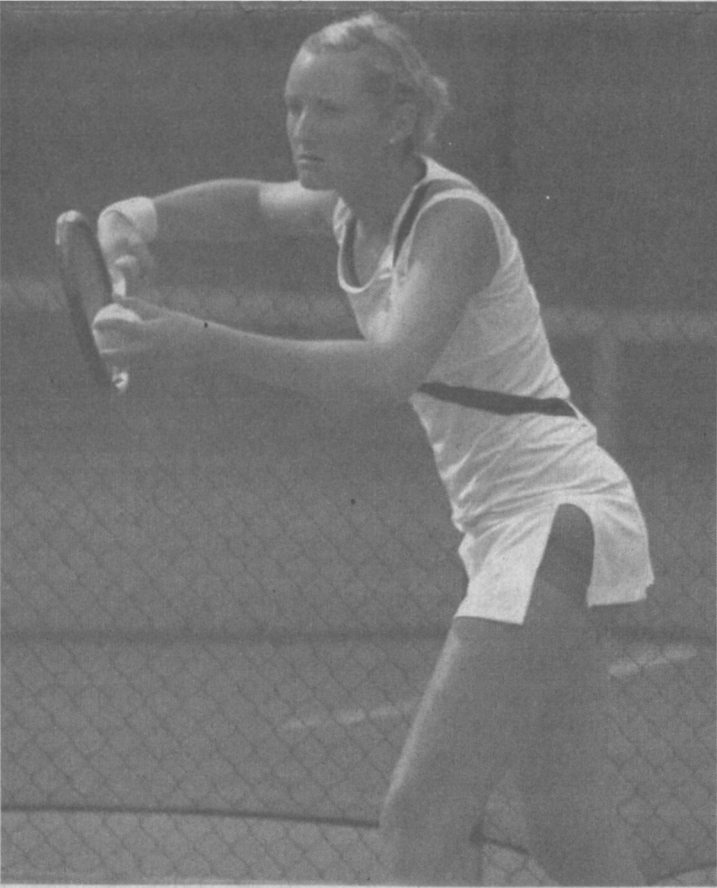
of California in her first round match, then defeated Rika Tatsuno of Michigan, 7-5, 6-4, in the second round to earn a berth in the quarterfinals. She would face No. 4 seed Juliette Coupez of San Diego on Saturday.

Teammate Alida Muller-Wehlau did not fare as well in the singles, dropping her opening match, 6-4, 6-2, to Denise Muresan of Michigan. She did rebound to defeat Danon Beatty of Fresno State, 6-2, 6-1, in her consolation singles match, and she would face Utah’s Anastasia Putilina on Saturday morning.

The two teamed up for doubles action on Friday as well, but lost to the UCLA duo of Walters and Pantic, 8-2, in their only doubles action.

Freshman Sona Novakova picked up a pair of three-set wins, advancing to the singles bracket final after Saturday’s action.

Novakova defeated No. 4 seed Juliette Coupez of San Diego, 1-6, 7-5, 7-5, in Saturday morning’s quarterfinal match. She then knocked off the top-seeded Chisako Sugiyami of Michigan, 6-3, 2-6, 6-3, to earn a berth in the fi-

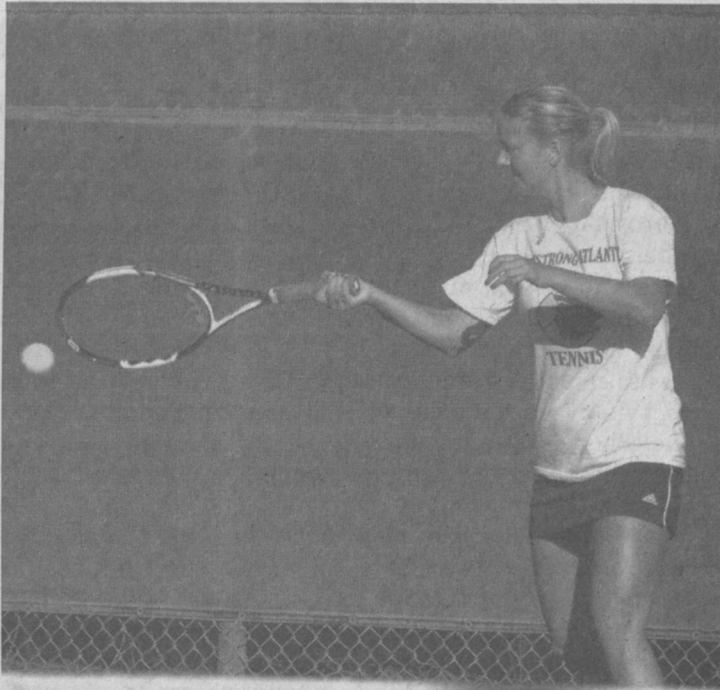


Sophomore Alida Muller-Wehlau fell in singles play but dominated in doubles with teammate Novakova.

nal, where she would take on third seeded Jana Juricova of California on Sunday.

In consolation singles action, sophomore Alida Muller-Wehlau won her first

singles match of the day, 2-6, 6-1, 7-6 (6) over Anastasia Putilina of Utah. Her run in the consolation singles bracket came to an end in her next match as she fell to Sa-



Photos courtesy of Sports Communications

Freshman Sona Novakova finished the weekend invitational 4-1 in singles.

mantha Mouly of San Diego, 7-5, 4-6, 7-5.

In doubles, the pair defeated Juricova/Ravelojaona of California, 9-7, for their first doubles win of the event.

The Pirates have completed their fall schedule and will next be in action in its spring season opener on February 5 at Flagler.

Player of the Week

By Courtland Hendricks
Staff Writer

Junior Kristin Burton was named the league’s Player of the Year for the second time in her career on Nov. 7. Burton won the award previously in 2006 as a freshman, and she is the third player in the Peach Belt Conference’s history to earn this honor twice.

Most recently, Burton scored two goals and tal-

lied one assist in two road victories for the Pirates’ soccer team. On Nov. 1, Burton headed the ball to senior Brittany Carr across the opening of the goal for Carr’s shot, giving Armstrong a 1-0 lead. The Pirates would eventually defeat Lander 2-0.

On Tuesday, Nov. 4, the Pirates traveled to Dahlonega, Ga., to take on North

Georgia in the first round of the Peach Belt Conference Tournament. Burton scored her first goal off her first shot of the day in the 43rd minute off a pass from Alyssa Anderson. Her second goal came off of an assist from Jamie Craine pass in the 65th minute.

That goal marked her 20th of the season and 64th of her career, tying Burton

with Clayton State’s Nkiru Okosieme (2001-04) for second place all-time in PBC history in career goals scored. Also, it won her the “golden ball” for leading the PBC in goals during the regular season.

Burton ranks also among the top 10 nationally in goals and points this season.

Junior Kristin Burton named PBC Player of the Year



Photo courtesy of Sports Communications

Kristin Burton is presented with the “Golden Ball” for leading the Peach Belt in goals for the season.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Calendar of Events

Nov. 17 to Dec. 12: The AASU Department of Art, Music & Theatre presents its fall 2008 Senior Graduation Art Exhibition in the AASU Fine Arts Gallery. Gallery hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., weekdays. Admission is free.

Nov. 18: The AASU Percussion Ensemble and Jazz Combo perform their fall concert at 7:30 p.m. at the Armstrong Center Ballroom, 13040 Abercorn Street, 31419. General admission: \$6. Call (912) 344-2801 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., weekdays, for ticketing information.

Russian singer’s story highlights International Week

Marina V fell for the U.S. on her own study abroad

By Kara Hooper
Staff Writer

Emotional extremes distinguish Russian native Marina V’s lyrical, international sound. The depths of her musical insights are birthed from personal experience. Joining International Week at Armstrong, Marina showcased her vocal and piano talents for students on Nov. 4.

While living in Russia, Marina – her full name is Marina Gennadievna Verenikina – endured the collapse of the Soviet Union.

“Seeing tanks in the street was very crazy for me. It was very hard,” she says.

Her striking voice allowed Marina to win a coveted scholarship to study in the United States when she was 15 for one year.

“I fell in love with this country,” she says, but it wasn’t always easy.

“Coming and adjusting to a new culture was very diffi-

cult and emotional,” Marina says.

Grasping the English language was hard for Marina due to the fast pace with which her fellow classmates spoke.

“When you come to a foreign country, you feel like a baby, like you’re starting all over,” she says.

Nevertheless, Marina insists that study abroad is an eye-opening experience that more students should try.

Upon her return to Moscow, she vowed to find her way back to the U.S. Unfortunately, upon her return she was blindsided by the separation and eventual divorce of her parents. Marina chose hard work and saved up for a return trip to the U.S., and at age 17 she did indeed return.

Marina completed her college education in Illinois and has since been exhausting every avenue to pursue her musical career. She now resides in Los Angeles.

“Moving to LA definitely

helped me make the right business connections that helped my career. It’s not always about the music. You have to have help from the business side.”

As a child, Marina translated The Beatles music, which became a heavy influence on her own, as well as Tori Amos, Sarah McLachlan and Jewel. Her music is an interesting mix of all four, combined with soulful Russian undertones.

“My music is letting all the crazy stuff in my soul out so I don’t go insane,” she says.

“It eases out of me. It’s like a cleansing when I write. So incidentally I have a lot of sad songs, but I’m really happy and hyper in real life.”

Marina has released two studio albums, “Let Me Dream” and 2008’s “Modern Fairytale.” Her concert album, “Live at SoundMoves,” was released in 2005. Her official Web site is marinav.com.

International Week fo-

cuses on the culmination of different cultures co-existing together. Dr. James Anderson, director of International Education, considers International Week a way of “taking the blinders off, so we all can see the world around us, not just what’s in front of us.”

“Our job is to work to make students and faculty aware of the international world around us.” Dr. Anderson explains that Armstrong has three main goals to involve the international community.

The first goal is to involve Armstrong students in study abroad programs, the second goal is to bring foreign students here to our own campus, and the third goal is to interact with other countries that have a faculty exchange.

Anderson believes that the combination of these goals will help promote their overall aim of tolerance and understanding on an international level.



Photo by Yvette Wheeler

Russian-born singer Marina V sings from her latest album, Modern Fairytale.

T-Mobile keeps Apple on its toes

The new G1 makes a big impact in the world of smartphones

By Shadé Summers
Staff Writer

T-Mobile released their newest phone, the G1, a Google-powered touchscreen HTC (High-tech computer) Android phone on Oct. 22.

The G1 possesses a QWERTY keypad, touch screen navigation and full web browsing among a host of other features.

Access to Google maps is the primary selling point of the G1. Google maps gives access to satellite, traffic and “street view.” It’s comparable to the iPhone’s Google maps feature that lacks the “street view” feature.

The T-Mobile G1 is available for \$179 for subscribers with a two-year contract. The current T-Mobile unlimited calling plan is \$99 and the unlimited data plan for the G1 is \$25. A monthly bill will cost a subscriber around \$135 in the end.

The G1 weighs around 158 grams (5.53 ounces), has a 3.2-inch touch screen, a 3-megapixel camera and

provides 5 hours of talk time. Though the battery life is short, it is consistent with the battery life of competitors. The standby time is markedly less, coming in at 130 hours. The iPhone provides 300 hours.

G1 users who do not live in a 3G network area will experience a slower load time when on the Internet, but it is only about five to ten seconds slower than the iPhone. AT&T’s 3G network is already available to iPhone users in the area, but T-Mobile’s local 3G network is not yet up and running for G1 users.

The G1 does not come with the often unwanted preloaded games but has the Android Market Place, which offers free games and applications, like “Barcode Scanner,” that scans any barcode with the phone’s camera and locates it on the internet for purchase.

Unlike the iPhone, the QWERTY keypad serves as the primary form of entering information, lowering the

chance for errors when typing long messages. The G1 lacks a touch screen alphanumeric keypad, but a numeric touch screen is available for entering numbers or making calls.

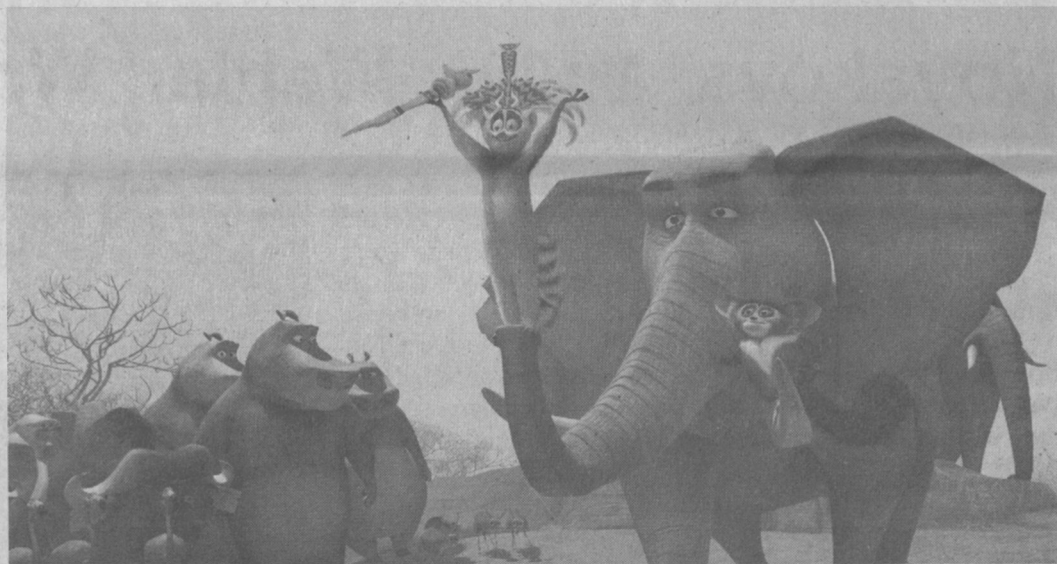
The swivel action is interesting, but it snaps out hard. The G1 has proven to be durable during a few weeks’ use, and it has survived a few falls.

A user can send and receive multimedia text messages (mms) with the G1, which is impossible to do with the iPhone. G1 users can forward pictures to their free Google e-mail account. Having a Gmail account is recommended before completing initial new G1 configuration.

T-Mobile promises an expansion of their high-speed data network, which is primarily available in major cities but there are no projection dates as of yet for the launch of 3G networks that are scheduled for 2009.

Pretty, shiny, animated Africa

CGI is no substitute for a good script



© DreamWorks 2008

King Julien (center, Sacha Baron Cohen) accompanied by his right-hand lemur, Maurice (right, Cedric the Entertainer) addresses the citizens of the watering hole in DreamWorks’ “Madagascar 2: Escape 2 Africa.”

By Joseph Peters
Staff Writer

The list of animated films with cuddly animal stars continues to grow, and “Madagascar 2: Escape 2 Africa” is its newest addition. Boasting an all-star voice cast and a familiar cast of characters – as well as some of the best animation in film to date – there’s no excuse for how ultimately flat this movie falls.

We begin the film with the flamboyant Alex the Lion (Ben Stiller) and his friends – Marty the Zebra (Chris Rock), Melman the Giraffe (David Schwimmer), and Gloria the Hippo (Jada Pinkett Smith) – attempting to flee the lemur kingdom led by King Julien (“Borat” creator Sacha Baron Cohen).

Their Air Penguin-sponsored airplane goes down near a reserve. Naturally, this reserve happens to be the same place where Alex was born, and the movie follows him as he attempts to reconcile his relationship with his

father, Zuba (the late Bernie Mac).

The movie definitely has its bright spots. The penguin clan from the first “Madagascar” is back, and their hijinks steal the movie away from the high-powered leads. Cohen’s Julien echoes George W. Bush and likewise outshines the A-listers.

The main storylines, however, lack any of the emotional depth that make other animated films so heartfelt. Stiller – whose performance in “Tropic Thunder” may have saved his comedic credibility – is somewhere between creative and overtly homosexual, and his Alex is occasionally hilarious; more often, however, he’s a one-note joke. Rock’s Marty the Zebra finds himself surrounded by zebras with the exact same voice and stripes and is confronted with the idea that he’s not as unique as he once thought. Touching? Sometimes. It’s also about as shallow as the kiddie pool in which this movie proudly splashes.

The animation in this movie is spectacular. In in-

terviews, the animators noted their desire to show the vastness of the African landscape, and they clearly put the time in to accomplish this goal. The animation in this movie makes other DreamWorks offerings – “Bee Movie”, “Kung Fu Panda,” and the “Shrek” series – look amateur by comparison.

Still, the knock on DreamWorks Animation films is that they tend to go for big-name voice talent at the expense of solid story, and “Madagascar 2” does not break this trend. There are flashes of brilliance. Certain lines and characters will have the viewer smiling in the morning.

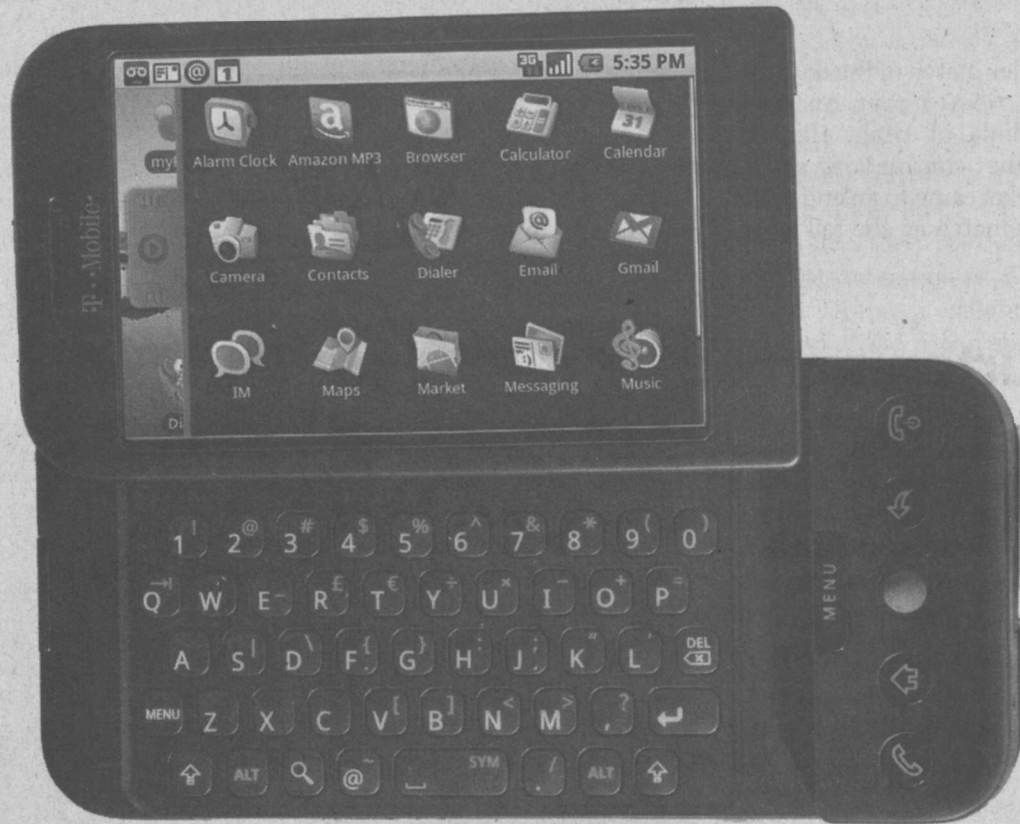
Unfortunately, “Madagascar 2” simply fails to deliver the total package.

2 stars (out of 5)

Directed By: Eric Darnell and Tom McGrath

Starring: Ben Stiller, Chris Rock, Sacha Baron Cohen

Rated: PG for some mild crude humor.



(MCT)

Google’s widely anticipated entry into the smart-phone market – the T-Mobile G1, out this week – has raised consumer expectations that it could be the next must-have gadget. Some users may like the G1’s physical QWERTY keyboard, which lies behind the slide-away screen. It’s bigger than the iPhone’s virtual keyboard, which exists only on the screen.

Check online for more Arts and Entertainment

Fashion Focus, Recipe and Open-mic night

theinkwellonline.com

Diwali: the Festival of Lights

SCAD's annual event attracts over 500 for singing, dancing and dining

By Lindsay Webb
Staff Writer

The SCAD Association of Indian Students, Milaap, held its version of “Diwali, the Festival of Lights,” on Saturday, Nov. 8.

Diwali is a major Indian festival celebrated all over the world. It gets its name from the extravagant amount of lights or lamps lit to signify the victory of good over evil within every human being.

Last year's festival was awarded for being the “best cultural event organized by a student group.” Though over 200 people attended, organizers were unprepared for the volume of people that showed up at Habersham Hall for this year's festival.

Before the festival even opened its doors, there was a crowd of over 200 people waiting to enter, which was not good for a venue with a maximum capacity of 250. When combined with the number of event staff and performers, the venue was filled before the waiting crowd could be admitted. This led to many being forced to wait over an hour before they could enter the festival.

Entertainment included a fashion show by festival sponsor Studio9 and featured clothes styled by the owner, Lena Barbos, though the clothes did not contain any Indian garments or cultural references,

Authentic music was performed by Milaap members Hassan Taimur and Myra Iqbal and featured a number of traditional Indian songs, including “Dholi taro dhol baaja.” The songs they played were composed to celebrate life and accomplishment, and the exotic bell tones and rhythmic beats encouraged students to the dance floor.

It was appropriately followed by a number of Bollywood and belly dancing performances, both by the Milaap Dance Troupe. Songs performed included “Aaja Nachlae,” “O Re Piya,” “Maya Maya,” “Mau-Ja Mauja,” and “Mum Dil De Chuke Sanam.”

New Milaap member Matt Rich was proud of the dance routines they performed this year. Though Rich isn't of Indian heritage, he joined the group because of the number of Indian friends that he had. Upon discovering his love of ballroom and other dancing, he was invited to

join the troupe.

When asked about his favorite part of the festival, he excitedly exclaimed that his “favorite moment was doing the dances. It was crazy fun and awesome to do some Indian dancing.”

Various members of Milaap applied henna tattoos for a fee and had a long line most of the night. The designs used were created by the artists themselves and mostly reflected organic patterns such as vines and flowers, but they also were glad to work with requests for specific designs.

Some of the ethnic dishes served were chilli chicken, cocktail samosas with green and red chutney, aloo and chilli pakoras and pav phaji.

The treasurer of Milaap, Aradhana Modi, said that attendance had almost doubled to 550 people by the end of the evening.

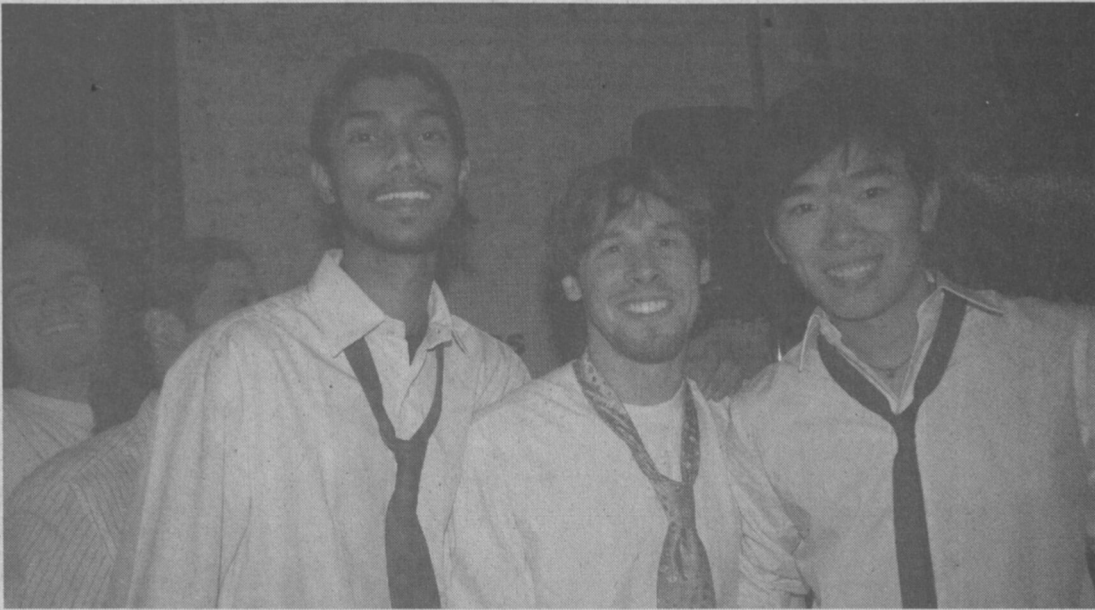
“This year's festival was amazing. Everything was great. We managed to make it happen despite all the shortcomings and the terrible rainy and unpredictable weather,” Modi said.

The festival was originally scheduled to take place on Oct. 24, but was postponed due to rain.



Photos by Lindsay Webb

Belly Dance Soloist, Amuy Swaby, performs as a volunteer for the first time at the festival.



Members of the Milaap Dance Troupe. Left to Right: Vidhu Venkat, Matt Rich and Luke Lee.

The TV Critic About last night...

Comedy Central's hit show doesn't miss a beat

By Brittany Doctor
Staff Writer

In the wake of Barack Obama becoming the President-elect of the United States, Comedy Central aired an episode of its number one show, “South Park,” titled “About Last Night...” This episode was television's first major attempt at satire of the various reactions of voters of the 2008 presidential election.

“South Park” is hated by plenty of groups and religions and touts its longstanding war with the Catholic Church after its

controversial jabs at the Vatican, the Pope and the relationships between priests and choirboys.

The show has been known to take pokes at numerous groups, organizations, religions, cultures and even pits the sexes against each other in some episodes. In spite of, or because of all this, the show remains a staple of blunt television comedy.

“About Last Night...” begins by showing its version of Obama's victory speech in Chicago by giving Obama's daughters' new dog a name: “Sparkles.”

One supporter is elated

by the victory and shows his love by shouting: “Change! It's change! He's so awesome! He's so perfect and awesome!”

Apparently some people think that the enthusiasm of Barack Obama's supporters at his victory isn't warranted.

With Obama's supporters being slammed goes the angry and uptight depiction of John McCain's voters. After McCain's remark in his concession speech, “the failure is mine, not yours,” some viewers, clad in McCain-Palin gear, are distraught at Obama's victory. “It's

all over...the country as we know it is about to change!” shrieks one supporter, throwing the town of South Park into an Armageddon-esque state.

“We'll probably be dead by sunrise” is the show's exaggeration of the sentiments of real McCain-Palin supporters, and they eventually enter a bunker made of household odds and ends called “the Ark” to shelter themselves from the end of the world.

Meanwhile Obama-Biden supporters are partying in excess and looting throughout the streets.

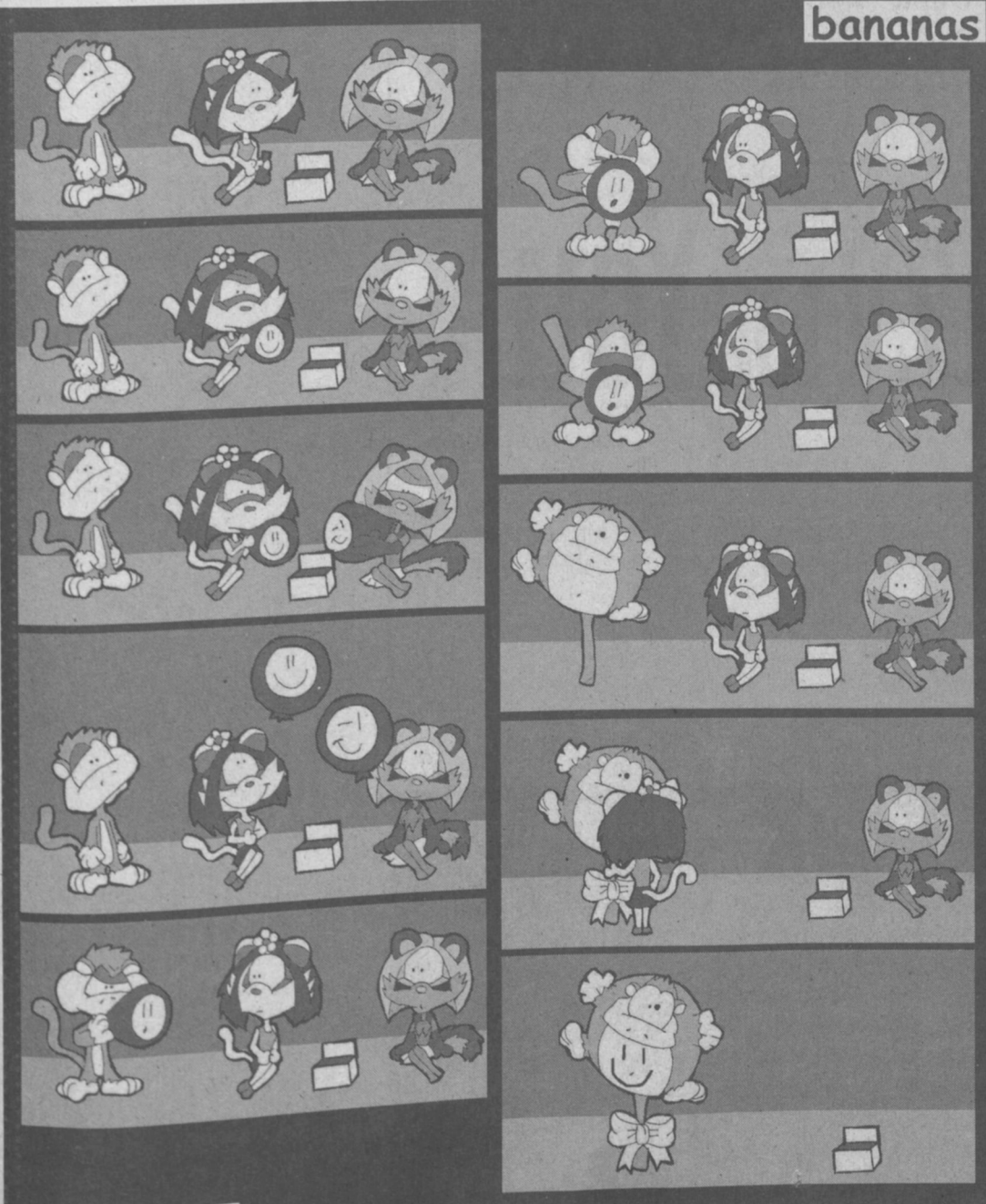
It is revealed that the two candidates and their camps are involved in a heist of the Hope diamond, a feat that has taken 10 years to accomplish. The whole election process was part of their plan. In fact, Michelle and Barack aren't even married, but merely partners in crime. The biggest surprise in the whole thieving crew is Sarah Palin as a British master thief.

This may just be the funniest and most convincing piece of entertainment regarding this election all year. It pokes fun at Obama's supporters who may tend to

worship him and McCain's supporters, so bitter about his loss that they might even resort to suicide at the prospect of Obama in office.

One point the episode tries to make is that the decision is final and there's no going back. In other words, McCain supporters really have no choice other than to give Obama a chance. Hopefully laughing at the situation can let the healing process begin for McCain voters.

To watch more South Park, tune in to Comedy Central Wednesdays at 10 p.m.



by:Seth Vargas

Crossword

ACROSS

1 Scrape evidence

5 Standing by the plate

10 Genesis shepherd

14 Turner of films

15 Irish lake

16 Provoke

17 Author Murdoch

18 Capital of Bulgaria

19 mater

20 Singer Kathy

22 Reversal

24 Flight of steps

26 Beam

27 Commits perjury

28 Serve a sentence

31 Controlled entrance

34 Put into proper pitch

37 Coming up

38 Prudent

39 American buffalo

40 Rock's partner

41 Syn. s' opp.

42 Like the flu

43 Markets

44 Yankees' Iron Horse

46 Wage-slave's letters

48 Hamm of soccer

49 Type of warfare

54 Train-car connectors

57 Look up to

58 Church area

59 Employ again

61 Singer Tennille

62 Legal claim

63 Encored on TV

64 Finishes off

65 Fewer

66 Panache

67 Hightail it

DOWN

1 Whittles down

2 Gem weight

3 Baker or Loos

4 July 14 location

5 Strasbourg's region

6 Also

7 Rubs to shine

8 Callie

9 Bangkok native

10 Bygone PLO leader

11 "White Wedding" singer

12 Ticklish doll

13 Spring forward

21 Toledo's lake

23 Rouse to action

25 Up and about

28 Cozy room

29 Comic Martin

30 Morays, e.g.

31 Stolen money

32 Pitchfork element

33 Panama and others

35 Made in the

36 "Teachers" star Nick

39 Expansive

40 Overhauled

42 Lab container

43 Gentlemen

45 Matures

47 "The End of the Affair" writer

49 Welcome

50 Loan-sharking

51 Hotelier

52 Gives for a time

53 "Witness" sect

54 Telephone

55 Mayberry lad

56 Slips up

60 Magle or Mineo

Solutions

H	S	V	O	E	T	A	I	S	S	S	E	T
S	O	N	E	N	V	E	R	S	N	E	I	T
I	N	O	I	E	S	N	E	R	E	S	E	V
W	E	E	I	S	E	S	E	R	V	I	D	O
V	I	L	I	H	E	E	N	G	V	I	W	
S	T	I	S	T	V	H	I	A	I	N	V	
T	O	O	H	N	O	S	I	E	S	I	M	
E	N	D	G	E	N	N	I	E	T	I	S	
D	I	E										
A	V	A	E	S	O	C	H	I	V	I	S	
O	L	F	I	L	V	E	T	L	A	W		
V	W	I	V	I	O	S	S	I	H	I		
E	T	I	R	H	E	N	O	I	V	N	A	I
T	E	B	A	V	L	A	B	L	A	B	O	S

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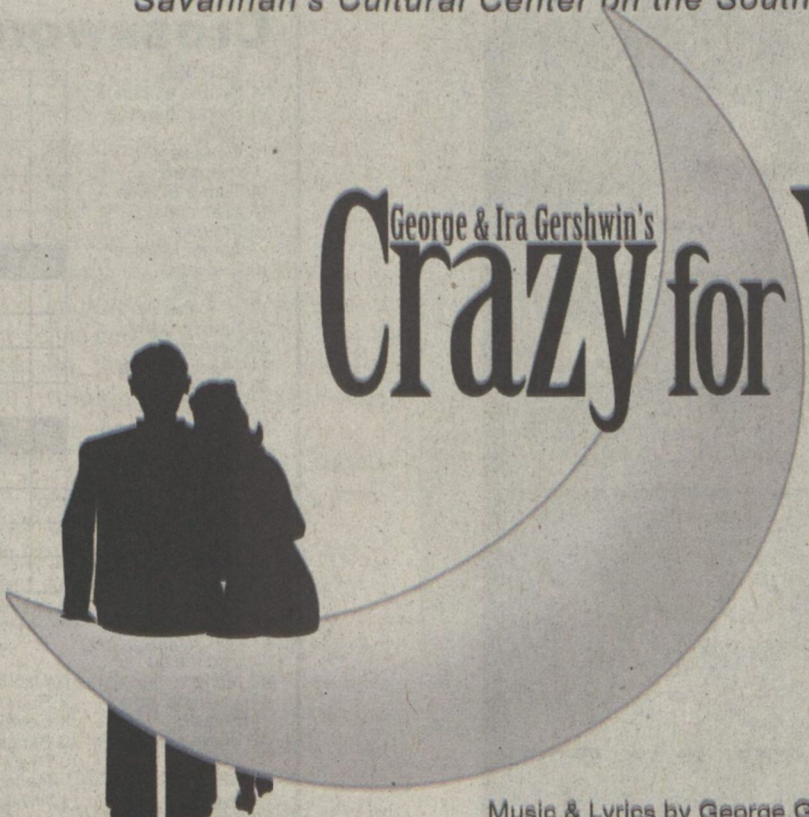
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